



Department of Justice

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HOGSETT PRIORITIZES THE PROSECUTION OF FEDERAL CRIME AT THE PRISON

TERRE HAUTE, IND. - Joseph H. Hogsett, United States Attorney, met today with Charles Lockett, Warden, Federal Correctional Complex - Terre Haute (FCC-TH), and members of his staff, and committed to them that he would prioritize the prosecution of federal crime that occurs at the FCC-TH. The United States Attorney has jurisdiction to prosecute crimes committed by inmates while incarcerated at the federal prisons in Terre Haute. These crimes include attacks on other inmates, possession of weapons, possession of drugs, and assaults on correctional officers.

“As the United States Attorney, I have made it clear that it is my priority to increase the safety of all Hoosiers through federal prosecution of violent crime. Nowhere is safety more important than at this prison. Prosecuting crime at the prison is a priority for me because I believe that the aggressive prosecution of crime at the prison will deter inmates from committing those crimes and make the prison safer place to go to work,” stated Hogsett. Hogsett noted that, “With a total budget of \$92 million and over 700 employees, FCC-TH is the Wabash Valley’s main employer. Thus, it is important to all of us that the families who depend on this facility for a paycheck remain safe, secure and gainfully employed.”

In addition to meeting with the Warden, Hogsett toured the maximum security facility. “The tour was helpful to me and reaffirmed my commitment to increasing safety at the prison by prosecuting inmates who chose to threaten that safety by committing crimes in that facility,” said Hogsett.

Already in 2011, six cases involving criminal activity by inmates and/or visitors have been charged by the U.S. Attorney’s Office. Assistant U. S. Attorney James M. Warden is the prosecutor who handles these cases. In the past, correctional officers have been assaulted by inmates who manage to craft a weapon from something as common as a pen, a kitchen utensil, or a piece of fence. In addition to the criminal prosecutions, the U.S. Attorney’s Office also represents the United States of America in civil litigation brought by inmates against the prison facilities. These cases involve claims ranging from inadequate medical care to claims of abuse by other inmates. Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom Kieper takes a leadership role in defending those cases.

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